



PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

This privacy statement provides information about the processing and the protection of your personal data.

Processing operation: *Maritime Forum – Platform for Maritime Policy Stakeholders*

Data Controller: *European Commission, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Unit A1*

Record reference: *DPR-EC-03710.2*

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1. Introduction

The European Commission (hereafter ‘the Commission’) is committed to protect your personal data and to respect your privacy. The Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/1725](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data (repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001).

This privacy statement explains the reason for the processing of your personal data, the way we collect, handle and ensure protection of all personal data provided, how that information is used and what rights you have in relation to your personal data. It also specifies the contact details of the responsible Data Controller with whom you may exercise your rights, the Data Protection Officer and the European Data Protection Supervisor.

The information in relation to processing operation “*Interactive web tool – European Maritime Policy Forum*” undertaken by *the relevant services of the European Commission (DG MARE)* is presented below. The Maritime Forum enables parties interested in the EU maritime policy and the blue economy to communicate in a common platform, which hosts different communities where users can publish events, articles and follow developments in their areas of interest. Please note that the registration to the Forum covered by this processing operation does not entail an automatic registration to the communities, for which an ad-hoc request has to be submitted. For further information, please refer to the relevant privacy statement accompanying the joining policy of each community.

2. Why and how do we process your personal data?

The Data Controller collects and uses your personal information to handle your request to join the Forum and approve your account for the same purpose. Once submitted, the administrators of the Forum will access the data provided in the context of the registration (name and first name as registered via ECAS, along with the ECAS account name) to verify the identity and approve the account. Administrators have access to an overview of published and unpublished content of the website, the username of the contributor, the editorial team he/she belongs to and the date. Occasionally, the system administrators can contact a registered user via an input screen.

Please note that for the consultation and navigation on the Maritime Forum, including the communities, you do not need to provide any personal data, except those that are necessary to access any European Commission websites. For further information, please refer to the underlying processing operation “Processing of personal data on European Commission websites within the europa.eu domain” (reference number in the public DPO register: DPR-EC-00083.3).

The username, name, e-mail address and password are stored in the Commission's ECAS system, which is connected through a look-up table to the Maritime Forum. The forum requires you to login via your ‘EU Login’. ‘EU Login’ requires certain personal data such as the name, surname and e-mail address of the registrant. For further information, please refer to the privacy statements of ‘EU Login’ as well as the processing operations ‘Identity & Access Management Service (IAMS)’ (reference number in the public DPO register: DPR-EC-03187).

Your personal data will not be used for an automated decision-making including profiling.

3. On what legal ground(s) do we process your personal data

We process your personal data, because processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest (Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725). Communications with stakeholders are necessary for the management and functioning of the Commission as they contribute to regulatory quality and transparency and increase the involvement of stakeholders and the public at large in the framework of better regulation. Registration to the forum is the pre-condition for users to join the various communities, which allow DG MARE to collect the views of stakeholders regarding the development of new/existing policies and the implementation of the DG MARE's work programmes.

The Union law which is the basis for the processing based on Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 is the Treaty of the European Union, more specifically its Article 11, and Article 15 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

4. Which personal data do we collect and further process?

In order to carry out this processing operation described above, the Data Controller collects the following personal data:

- Name;
- Last name;
- ECAS account name.

5. How long do we keep your personal data?

DG MARE only keeps the subject's personal data for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing, namely for the approval of the account and for the period during which the user decides to remain registered in the Forum. However, personal data of users that have not logged in to the forum for more than one year will be permanently deleted when said period has elapsed ("non-active users").

The personal data of users whose access request has not been yet accepted will be automatically deleted after six months from said request.

Active users who wish to have their account permanently deleted can do so by sending an e-mail to MARE-A1@ec.europa.eu (should the user be member of one or more communities within the Maritime Forum, the content he/she may have posted will be anonymised).

Please note that personal data entered into the ECAS (European Commission Authentication System) are covered by the data protection policy of that system. For further information, please refer to the privacy statements of 'EU Login' as well as the processing operations 'Identity & Access Management Service (IAMS)' (reference number in the public DPO register: DPR-EC-03187).

6. How do we protect and safeguard your personal data?

All personal data in electronic format (e-mails, documents, databases, uploaded batches of data, etc.) are stored on the servers of the European Commission. All processing operations are carried out pursuant to the [Commission Decision \(EU, Euratom\) 2017/46](#) of 10 January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission.

In order to protect your personal data, the Commission has put in place a number of technical and organisational measures. Technical measures include appropriate actions to address online security, risk of data loss, alteration of data or unauthorised access, taking into consideration the risk presented by the processing and the nature of the personal data being processed.

Organisational measures include restricting access to the personal data solely to authorised persons with a legitimate need to know for the purposes of this processing operation.

7. Who has access to your personal data and to whom is it disclosed?

Access to your personal data is provided to the Commission staff responsible for carrying out this processing operation described above and to authorised staff according to the “need to know” principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements. Should a user of the Maritime Forum decide to register to one of more communities, his/her registration data will be shared with the manager of the community to which the request to join has been sent.

Only system administrators have access to personal data for maintenance purposes.

Users can access their own personal data when logged in.

Please note that pursuant to Article 3(13) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 public authorities (e.g. Court of Auditors, EU Court of Justice) which may receive personal data in the framework of a particular inquiry in accordance with Union or Member State law shall not be regarded as recipients; the processing of those data by those public authorities shall be in compliance with the applicable data protection rules according to the purposes of the processing.

8. What are your rights and how can you exercise them?

You have specific rights as a ‘data subject’ under Chapter III (Articles 14-25) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, in particular the right to access, your personal data and to rectify them in case your personal data are inaccurate or incomplete. Where applicable, you have the right to erase your personal data, to restrict the processing of your personal data, to object to the processing, and the right to data portability.

You have the right to object to the processing of your personal data, which is lawfully carried out pursuant to Article 5(1)(a) on grounds relating to your particular situation.

You can exercise your rights by contacting the Data Controller, or in case of conflict the Data Protection Officer. If necessary, you can also address the European Data Protection Supervisor. Their contact information is given under Heading 9 below.

Where you wish to exercise your rights in the context of one or several specific processing operations, please provide their description (i.e. their Record reference(s) as specified under Heading 10 below) in your request.

In accordance with Article 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, your request as a data subject will be handled within one month of receipt of the request. That period may be extended by two further months where necessary, considering the complexity and number of the requests. In such case you will be informed of the extension of the time limit, together with the reasons for the delay.

9. Contact information

- The Data Controller

If you would like to exercise your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, or if you have comments, questions or concerns, or if you would like to submit a complaint regarding the collection and use of your personal data, please feel free to contact the Data Controller, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and fisheries, Unit A1 (mare-a1@ec.europa.eu).

- **The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission**

You may contact the Data Protection Officer (DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu) with regard to issues related to the processing of your personal data under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

- **The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)**

You have the right to have recourse (i.e. you can lodge a complaint) to the European Data Protection Supervisor (edps@edps.europa.eu) if you consider that your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 have been infringed as a result of the processing of your personal data by the Data Controller.

10. Where to find more detailed information?

The Commission Data Protection Officer (DPO) publishes the register of all processing operations on personal data by the Commission, which have been documented and notified to him. You may access the register via the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register>.

This specific processing operation has been included in the DPO's public register with the following Record reference: DPR-EC-03710.